



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: PELLENC, ROGER; DELRAN, ROBERT

SERIAL NO.: 09/993,400

ART UNIT: 3671

FILED: November 6, 2002

EXAMINER: TORRES, A.M.

TITLE: UNIVERSAL REMOVABLE TOOL-HOLDER TO BE MOUNTED ON A STRADDLING VINEYARD TRACTOR FOR AGRICULTURAL WORK IN TREE OR SHRUB PLANTATIONS

REMARKS ON AMENDMENT "C"

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of January 13, 2004, having a response being due on April 13, 2004, please consider the following remarks in conjunction with the amendments to the above-identified application as follows:

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendments, previous Claims 20 - 28 have been canceled and new Claims 29 - 36 substituted therefor. Reconsideration of the rejections, in light of the foregoing amendments and present remarks, is respectfully requested. The present amendments have been entered for the purpose of placing the application into a proper condition for allowance.

In the Office Action, it was indicated that Claims 20 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over the Causer patent in view of the Stikeleather patent. Claim 26 was rejected as being obvious over the Causer and Stikeleather patents in view of the Ellenger patent.

Claim 27 was rejected as being obvious over the Causer and Stikeleather patents in view of the Babard patent. Importantly, the Examiner has indicated that Claims 21 - 25 were "objected to" as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten into independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Although Applicant respectfully disagrees with the prior art rejections of the Examiner, Applicant is desirous of obtaining patent protection for the present invention at an early date. As such, has revised the "objected to" claims into a proper independent form so as to place the application into a proper condition for allowance. These claims are presented now as Claims 29 - 36.

In particular, new independent Claim 29 incorporates the limitations of original objected-to Claim 21 and the limitations of independent Claim 20. As such, independent Claim 29 should be in a proper condition for allowance. Dependent Claim 30 corresponds to the limitations of previous dependent Claim 22. Dependent Claims 31 - 36 correspond, respectively, to the limitations of previous Claims 23 - 28. The dependencies of each of these dependent claims now reflect the incorporation of Claims 20 and 21 together in the form of new independent Claim 29.

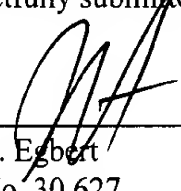
Based upon the foregoing analysis, Applicant contends that independent Claim 29 is now in proper condition for allowance. Additionally, those claims which are dependent upon Claim 29 should also be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested and allowance of the present claims at an early date is earnestly solicited. Since no additional claims have been added above those originally paid for, no additional fee is required.

Since this Amendment "C" has been filed in reply to the "final" rejection, Applicant desires to receive either a Notice of Allowance or an Advisory Action at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

MAR 10 2004

Date



John S. Egbert
Reg. No. 30,627
Andrew W. Chu
Reg. No. 46,625
Attorney for Applicant
Harrison & Egbert
412 Main Street, 7th Floor
Houston, Texas 77002
(713)224-8080
(713)223-4873 fax